

Message Text

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EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. VARIED ARAB ATTITUDES TOWARD ENERGY CONFERENCE

A. SAUDIS PASSIVELY DOUBTFUL...

EMBASSY JIDDA REPORTS THAT PRELIMINARY SAUDI REACTIONS TO THE PROPOSED ENERGY CONFERENCE ARE NONCOMMITTAL BUT COULD BECOME NEGATIVE IF OFFICIALS ADOPT THE POSITION THAT THE US WANTS TO CREATE A CONSUMER BLOC TO DESTROY PRODUCERS. THE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO PERSUADE THE SAUDIS THAT COOPERATION AND DISCUSSION ARE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 250, 1/17.

B. ...BUT WARM KUWAITI RESPONSE REPORTED

KUWAITI MINISTER OF FINANCE AND OIL ATIQUI TOLD AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS THAT HE APPROVES OF MEETINGS BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, AND HE PRAISED THE TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF
SECRET

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THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE AMIR. HE URGED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY HINT OF CONFRONTATION BE AVOIDED AND IMPLIED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES SHOULD NOT PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ENERGY DISCUSSIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL) KUWAIT

215, 1/17.

2. VISIBLE US-EC ENERGY CONSULTATIONS DISCOURAGED

ALTHOUGH HE THINKS THE EC SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO US VIEWS ON ENERGY BEFORE THE COMMISSION COMPLETES ITS POSITION PAPER PRIOR TO THE FEBRUARY 11 MEETING IN WASHINGTON, EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SOAMES IS CONVINCED THAT CONSULTATIONS MUST BE CARRIED OUT THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO AVOID AROUSING SUSPICIONS ABOUT US INFLUENCE ON THE COMMISSION PAPER. HE TOLD AMBASSADOR GREENWALD THAT NO US SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD BE SENT TO BRUSSELS PRIOR TO THE FEBRUARY 4-5 COUNCIL MEETING. (CONFIDENTIAL) USEC BRUSSELS 309, 1/17 (EXDIS).

3. OPEC WRANGLE OVER DISCUSSION WITH CONSUMERS

IRAN'S MINISTER OF FINANCE AMUZEGAR ADMITTED TO AMBASSADOR HELMS THAT THE RECENT OPEC MEETING IN GENEVA WAS MARKED BY SHARP DISAGREEMENT OVER A POSSIBLE MEETING WITH OECD. HE SPECULATED THAT THE OPPOSITION OF ALGERIA, IRAQ, AND LIBYA IS POLITICAL AND MAY BE BASED ON FEAR THAT CONSUMERS WILL TRICK PRODUCING NATIONS. HE ALSO STATED THAT SAUDI ARABIAN HINTS OF A POSSIBLE PRICE REDUCTION ARE MISLEADING AND THAT NO OPEC MEMBER WOULD GO ALONG WITH SUCH A REDUCTION. (SECRET) TEHRAN 437, 1/17 (EXDIS).

4. LIBYAN REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCED MERGER

EMBASSY TUNIS BELIEVES THAT BECAUSE OF QADHAFI'S DOMINANCE, THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL ON THE TUNISIAN UNION ISSUE, AND THAT THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE UNDER DOMESTIC PRESSURE TO EXPLAIN THE ANNOUNCED MERGER. THE TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR IS WATCHING FOR QADHAFI'S REACTION TO THE TUNIS SLOW-DOWN WITH APPREHENSION, FEARING POSSIBLE MEASURES AGAINST THE 30,000 TUNISIANS PRESENTLY IN LIBYA.

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(CONFIDENTIAL) TRIPOLI 70, 1/17.

5. TANAKA'S REACTION TO JAKARTA RIOTS

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AN OFFICIAL OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS TOLD EMBASSY JAKARTA THAT PRIME MINISTER TANAKA WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH HIS RECEPTION IN INDONESIA BUT THAT HE WAS NOT ENTIRELY SURPRISED AND STILL CONSIDERS INDONESIA MORE STABLE THAN THAILAND. THE EMBASSY COMMENTS THAT ALTHOUGH THE DISTURBANCES ARE UNLIKELY TO AFFECT JAPANESE ASSISTANCE AND INVESTMENT IN EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES, INVESTMENTS IN OTHER AREAS MAY SUFFER. (CONFIDENTIAL) JAKARTA 699, 1/17. RUSH

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